

AS I SAID BEFORE

for any number of performers
with instruments of similar loudness

If you are using loud instruments, such as saxophones or brasses, perform outdoors. If you are using softer instruments, such as strings or voices, you may perform either outside or in an enclosed space.

Gather together in the midst of the space. Designate one performer as the "Center." The Center selects a pitch from the middle range of her instrument and plays it as a short, loud pulse every ten to twenty seconds. One person leaves the group and walks out in any direction until he can just barely hear the Center. He then begins pulsing loudly a different pitch from the middle range of his instrument.

When performers around the Center hear the new note, a second person leaves and walks out until she either 1) can just barely hear the Center and just barely hear the other performer, or 2) can just barely hear one and cannot hear the other at all. She then begins pulsing loudly a third mid-range pitch. When the remaining performers hear this note, another leaves, walks out until he can just barely hear one or more of the other performers, and begins pulsing a fourth pitch.

Continue this process until all the performers are separated by distances defined by thresholds of audibility. When the last performer reaches threshold-distance, she

plays one very long tone instead of pulsing. Anyone who hears it stops pulsing and plays his pitch as one long tone. Anyone who hears one of these "secondary" long tones plays her pitch similarly.

After you have played your long tone, wait about (thirty seconds) X (The number of performers). At the end of this time, if you have not already heard someone else do so, you may play a short, simple melodic phrase; if you do hear someone else's phrase, repeat what you hear loudly and as accurately as you can. In this way one or more phrases are initiated.

Continue to return what you hear. Begin a response only when you can hear no other performer. If someone else begins after you have, stop, listen, and then repeat whatever you can of the phrase that interrupted you. When you hear two or more performers together or in close sequence, you may repeat either the entire resultant phrase or a portion of it. If a pitch you hear is beyond the range of your instrument, omit it from your response.

As the performance continues the original phrases are modified by their repeated perception at the threshold of hearing after transmission over long distances and by the performers' options described above.

If you do not hear anyone for a long time you can assume that the physical conditions that determine

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threshold-distance have changed or that the nearest performers have moved. You may walk until you can just barely hear another performer and then resume playing, or you may leave the performance. The performance ends when the last person stops playing.

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